

WHAT POLITICAL LEADERS SAY ON THREE BIG QUESTIONS.

Upon What Issues Should the Fight Be Waged?

Which Ticket, in Your Belief, Will Win? and Why?

What Issue Do You Regard as the Most Vital?

FIGHT FOR MAYOR IS REALLY ON.

All Parties and Factions Are Hard at Work.

LEADERS ON THE ISSUES.

In Their Answers to Three Questions They Express Varying Views of the Probable Result of the Election.

WHEN Governor Black signed the Greater New York charter he started the real activity of the municipal campaign. The political organizations could do little until he had disposed of the charter. Now all are at work.

The Journal has asked many leading politicians the following questions:

1. Upon what issues should the fight be waged?
2. What issue do you regard as most vital?
3. Which ticket, in your belief, will win, and why?

Some of their answers are printed here-with. They cannot fail to be of great interest as showing how the battle, second in importance perhaps only to a national fight, will be laid out.

DEMOCRATS.

John C. Sheehan, leader of Tammany Hall—Unjust taxation, acknowledged corruption and waste, an admission of their inability to govern the city and the confessed failure of the so-called reform movement to give New York a satisfactory government—all these elements inspired and fostered and maintained by Republican legislative power and authority—have occasioned a great revolt on the part of the taxpayer and the people. The personal liberties of New Yorkers have been infringed upon, and that is something that the American people will not for a moment suffer. Personal liberty is one issue.

William Schermer, Register of New York—The fight should be waged purely and simply upon those issues which directly affect our municipality. It can be of no practical avail to our local government to elect or defeat local candidates because of their connections with public questions, whose consideration cannot come within the scope of their public duties.

The most vital issue of the next local campaign will undoubtedly be that of "personal liberty."

The campaign cry next Fall must be: "Let us have liberal laws. No more harassed domination for New York City."

Inevitably follows from the foregoing that the ticket to be nominated by the regular Democratic organization must prove triumphant at the coming election.

Editor the New York Journal—In reply to your inquiries the undersigned, on behalf of the young Democracy of New York and Brooklyn, would say:

So far as the Democratic party is concerned the issues should embody the principles laid down in the platform of the party at Chicago. We can have no prosperity till these principles are established, for the interests of the wealth producers of this country are interdependent, and there can be no prosperity here while the rest of the country is impoverished.

The Young Democracy has for a long period advocated the municipal ownership of such natural monopolies as gas and electric lighting, street railways, etc., and our advocacy of gas reform we made manifest at the opening of the legislative session, and not after the Legislature had adjourned. We have uniformly advocated a just excise law, united to the wants and customs of our citizens, and the ample protection of the rights of wage-workers, believing that labor is entitled to at least as much protection and as much consideration as accumulated capital.

These are the issues that should control the coming campaign, and if Democrats act in good faith toward their party and toward each other, success should be certain.

JAMES O'BRIEN,
FRANCIS M. BIXBY,
HENRY NICHOLS,
Committee of the Young Men's Democracy.

REPUBLICAN.

Abraham Gruber—The election of the first Mayor of Greater New York will be an event of world wide interest. Not much less than half a million votes will determine the issue. The votes will be fairly cast and honestly counted, and the successful candidate will undoubtedly represent the ideas of a plurality of the citizens.

I am certain that the candidate who fearlessly advocates government of the city's affairs by residents of the city, the largest possible appropriations for public schools and a low tax rate will stand the best chance of winning. The present local administration pursues a policy dictated by Fifth Avenue and the men who have grown enormously rich out of the use of public franchises for which they paid and are paying little or nothing.

The so-called Citizens' Union movement is a purely disguised effort to continue that kind of rule. A glance at the names of the men who are foremost in the Citizens' Union movement will prove convincing on this point.

CITIZENS' UNION.

R. Fulton Cutting—In reply to your questions with reference to the coming municipal campaign, let me say that the second seems to me to comprehend the first, and that my answer to it will be sufficient to both queries.

In my judgment, the vital issue in New

York City, and one which affects the world-wide future of Democracy, is the question of the moral character of our representatives. It is to-day comparatively insignificant that they be protectionists or free traders, gold standard or free silver, Populist or A. P. A., but that they should be men who cannot be bought by corporations nor tempted by the promise of political preferment is of supreme importance.

Nothing threatens the stability of our institutions more gravely nor widens the breach between different classes of our citizenship more rapidly than the use of money in politics. I am satisfied there is enough honor in our people to contest this enemy successfully, and I firmly believe that the machine government of the past has misrepresented the standard of virtue of the community, and that its conscience, if it had an opportunity to express itself, would select representatives whose administration would perpetuate the successes of the present executive and avoid its failures.

Joseph Larocque, chairman of the Committee of Seventy in the last municipal campaign—In my opinion, the issue upon which the coming campaign should be waged and the vital issue in that campaign is the right of the citizens to select for themselves, in the interest of the city, and free from the control of national parties or organizations professing to represent such parties, the officers to administer the purely municipal business of the city.

The recent declaration of the chairman of the County Committee of the political party now in power in the State, that they must elect a partisan Republican for Mayor, or that, failing that, a Tammany candidate would be preferable to a representative of the citizens, has given fair notice of what is to be expected from the political machine.

If our citizens desire to prevent their city from being given over to be looted by the camp followers of the political machines, they must unite, without respect to their views on national or State questions, and stand shoulder to shoulder in the impending struggle between the advocates of a clean, honest, efficient administration of city affairs, in the interest of the citizens, and the political bosses seeking control for the purpose of providing places for the camp followers of their respective machines, and so securing their grip on the municipal treasury and thus retarding the servile obedience of

TAMMANY TO START ITS FIGHT.

Two Meetings Set for To-day at the Wigwam.

ALL FORCES ARE TO BE JOINED

TAMMANY HALL will hold two meetings to-day in the Fourteenth street wigwam, which will mark the real beginning of the Tiger's Greater New York



With Three Tickets in the Field.



With Five Tickets in the Field.

Relative Voting Strength of the Parties and Factions.

THE politicians are already figuring upon the relative strength of the various organizations in the territory included in the greater city. There is a large natural Democratic majority. Should there be but two tickets in the field—Democratic and Republican—lined up on party issues, the resultant vote, it is estimated, would compare in size as the pictures of John C. Sheehan and T. C. Platt compare in the above cut.

In the event of the Citizens' Union placing a ticket in the field, indorsed by the various independent organizations, the chances of the Democracy would be materially increased. It is believed, and the votes would compare as indicated by the pictures of Sheehan, Platt and R. Fulton Cutting.

With five tickets—Democrats, Republican, Citizens' Union, Purroy and Gleason—the Democratic forces would still be in the lead, and the Tammany leaders and the Brooklyn machine leaders say the Democratic ticket will be elected against any sort of a combination that can be made against it.

The figures in the accompanying tables are based upon the vote cast at the election in 1895, in addition to the natural increase in the voting strength in two years.

TWO TICKETS.		Democratic Strength.	Republican Strength.
New York County.....	173,000	173,000	110,000
Kings County.....	102,000	80,000	22,000
Queens County.....	14,000	7,000	7,000
Richmond County.....	5,000	3,500	1,500
Westchester County.....	2,000	1,000	1,000
Totals.....	297,000	263,500	64,500
Democratic plurality.....			64,500

THREE TICKETS.		Democratic Strength.	Republican Strength.	Citizens' Union.
New York County.....	140,000	140,000	45,000	45,000
Kings County.....	85,000	65,000	20,000	20,000
Queens County.....	7,500	5,000	2,500	2,500
Richmond County.....	4,500	3,000	1,500	1,500
Westchester County.....	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Totals.....	280,000	215,000	70,000	70,000
Democratic plurality.....				70,000

FIVE TICKETS.		Democratic Strength.	Republican Strength.	Citizens' Union.	P. J. Gleason.	H. D. Purroy.
New York County.....	140,000	140,000	45,000	45,000	8,000	8,000
Kings County.....	85,000	65,000	20,000	20,000	3,000	3,000
Queens County.....	7,500	5,000	2,500	2,500	1,000	1,000
Richmond County.....	4,500	3,000	1,500	1,500	500	500
Westchester County.....	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	500	500
Totals.....	280,000	215,000	70,000	70,000	13,000	13,000
Democratic plurality.....						72,000

their adherents.

The people most interested in the success of the Citizens' ticket are the working people of this metropolis. They have already had something of an object lesson under the present administration as to the advantages of non-political government.

INDEPENDENT.

Patrick J. Gleason, Mayor of Long Island City and Independent Democratic candidate for Mayor of New York—The people wisely decided to have their municipal elections separate from other elections so as not to be affected by State or national issues. This will give them this Fall a fair opportunity to prove their appreciation of home rule by placing the Greater New York under an honest and efficient government.

The right men for office will be the principal issue at the coming election. It is to be too early to form an opinion as to the result of the election, as both of the great political organizations have many dissatisfied members and over-ambitious leaders, who may not be easily kept in line, and no one can tell what combination may be made.

Louis Windmiller, of the German-American Reform Union—Things now look to me, Tammany Hall will carry the greater city, and they will be able, by and by, to assist by the Republican machine. The latter is not strong enough to win, and know it. Being a machine for machine purposes, it is willing to share when it cannot grab the spoils. It can make terms for such division with Tammany. The Citizens' Union is not strong enough.

As to the German-American Reform Union vote, I can only say that it cannot be fooled into a political union again by promises of free Sundays and home rule. You can't fool the German voter in the same way. He will vote this time on the side that best represents his views of personal liberty and municipal government.

campaign. Legislation at Albany has had such a vital bearing upon the local situation that with Tammany, as with all the political organizations of Greater New York, it has been necessary to wait for the adjournment of that body and the signing of the charter before forming a positive plan of campaign.

Before the General Committee convenes the Executive Committee will meet. The first steps will then be taken by Tammany in following up the work started by Richard Croker and John C. Sheehan in their conferences with Hugh McLaughlin and Bernard J. York, of Brooklyn, looking to a plan of union and a unite daetion in the campaign.

No attempt will be made to combine the Democracy of New York and Brooklyn. This plan was hardly suggested. For purposes of common interest committees will be appointed, which will meet frequently.

The matter of candidates has been discussed only in the most informal way. It has been conceded that a New York man will receive the nomination for Mayor. As to the Comptroller and President of the Municipal Council, opinion is divided. Many influential Tammany men believe that the candidate for Comptroller should come from New York City; others, that inasmuch as the president of the Council would succeed to the Mayorship in case of the permanent disability or death of that official, the office should be filled by a New York man.

At the meeting of the General Committee in the evening Senator Thomas F. Grady will throw light upon some of the doings of the Republican Legislature. He will also touch upon the Republican Reform municipal administration.

YONKERS ALDERMAN HURT.

Abraham H. Tompkins Tries to Stop a Runaway and a Wagon Hubs Cuts His Eye.

Abraham H. Tompkins, an Alderman of Yonkers, lies at his home, No. 96 Linden street, that city, painfully injured as a result of being knocked down by a runaway horse owned by Colonel Dickerson, who lives on the Van Pel place, in the Nepperhan avenue extension.

The accident took place at Wells avenue and North Broadway, about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The Alderman was crossing the street, and attempted to stop the runaway. The wagon passed by him, but the hub of the wheel cut a deep gash over one of his eyes.

The horse ran down Broadway and dashed through the show window of Edwin Viller, completely wrecking it. An artery was cut in the horse's leg, and at one time it looked as if the animal would bleed to death.

Alliance Replaces the Dolphin.

The disenchanted boat Dolphin, which has been dry dock at the Navy Yard, having her hull scraped and painted, was floated yesterday to make room for the training ship Alliance, which has been at the yard several months, undergoing extensive alterations. The engines of the Alliance have been put in and she has been fitted with new rigging. After her dock trial the vessel will go to the Naval Training Station, at Newport, to take the apprentice boys for a six months' cruise in European waters. It is expected she will leave next week.

Sixteen Years for Burglary.

John B. Garrland, alias J. B. Corey, was sentenced to sixteen years in prison yesterday by Judge Cowing. He was convicted of burglary in the second degree as a second offense. On March 25 he entered the apartment of Mary Ryan, No. 809 East Houston street, and stole a pair of silver bracelets valued at \$35. Assistant District Attorney Carpenter presented the case.



With Two Tickets in the Field.

THERE IS TROUBLE AHEAD.

Worth and Lauterbach Disagree on Policy.

BROOKLYN'S BOSS FOR FUSION

THERE seems to be trouble in store for the Republican machine. Leader Edward Lauterbach has been bitter in his denunciation of fusion, and his interviews and speeches have emphatically enunciated the doctrine of extreme partisanship for the Greater New York campaign.

In this proposition Jacob Worth, the Republican boss of Brooklyn, does not concur. He believes that a straight ticket cannot be elected, and he and his friends say that an Independent Republican should be nominated for Mayor; that if this be done the ticket might have a chance.

Mayor Wurster and Mr. Worth are on the most friendly terms politically. The Mayor, in a recent interview in the Journal, expressed himself as favoring a union of all the anti-Tammany forces and the nomination of Jacob Worth. It is understood that "Boss" Worth has indorsed the Mayor's proposition, and that a virtually united delegation committed to the idea will represent Kings County in the Republican Greater New York convention. The Worth machine expects to have trouble with the Lauterbach machine when it comes to get the convention to nominate an Independent.

Lauterbach has gone so far in his antagonism to a union ticket that he cannot recede from the position.

Neither Worth nor Sheriff Butting, it is said, is in love with Lauterbach, and it may result in lasting enmity between the New York and Brooklyn machines.

It is said that Mayor Wurster is a candidate for Comptroller, and is backed by Worth. In the event of his nomination he would receive the support of the Willis faction. The Worth men believe that if the nomination for Mayor comes from New York City, Brooklyn is entitled to second place on the ticket.

PLATT FOR SHEARD?

It Is Said He Is Favoring the Herkimer Man for Collector of the Port.

The report was received at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night that ex-Senator Titus Sheard, of Little Falls, Herkimer County, was Senator Thomas C. Platt's candidate for Collector of the Port of New York; that Mr. Sheard's name had been presented to President McKinley, and that the friends of Warner Miller were up in arms.

The announcement of the candidacy of Mr. Sheard was not unexpected by the machine men. The McKinley League men said last night that the machine indorsement of George R. Bidwell, ex-secretary of the County Committee, for the place was merely a blind.

When the Herkimer politician was in the State Senate he was the bosom friend and personal representative of Warner Miller. In 1896 he broke with Miller, and became the representative of Platt and Charles W. Hackett, chairman of the State Committee. He entered into the combination to defeat Warner Miller in the election of delegates to the National Convention, and, later, to keep him from representing the district in the State Convention.

William Brookfield, John E. Milbolland and other friends of Mr. Miller have urged President McKinley not to appoint Sheard, as such an act would be an insult to a man who supported him for nomination at the expense of breaking with Platt. The McKinley League men believe that the President will heed their protests and refuse to name Sheard for Collector.

Black Signs Three Bills.

ALBANY, May 6.—Three of the Greater New York supplementary charter bills were signed by Governor Black to-day. Nothing in them is of special significance after the signing of the parent measure yesterday. They are a necessary adjunct and were not objected to as individual bills in their passage through either house. In the main they make the election conform to the new territory by obtaining the New York Board as the board of canvassers for New York City, and the county boards as county boards of canvassers for votes cast in the annexed districts.

SCHISM IN CITIZENS UNION.

Many Object to the Plan of Early Nominations.

THEY MAY GO SLOW ABOUT IT

The Citizens' Association of the Twenty-fifth Assembly District met in secret session, at Union headquarters, No. 39 East Twenty-third street, last night, and in the discussion over the early nominations propounded there arose the first serious split in the non-partisan ranks.

Professor Nicholas Murray Butler presided. The members present came in large part from the McKinley League crowd, and their coming was the signal for trouble. George Murray had a stiff resolution, demanding that no nominations be made until an organization had been perfected throughout Greater New York. The association refused to pass it. A resolution was then introduced as a substitute by Henry R. Towne. In substance it is as follows:

Resolved, That pending the creation of a permanent management and form of organization, it is recommended that no action relating to nominations or to the plan of campaign be taken; and that whatever plan be finally adopted should be in the broadest manner provide for a full, free and intelligent participation by the whole membership in all proposed actions of the union in the election of its officers and the accomplishment of its high purpose.

Lovell H. Jerome said that he wanted delegates elected to a convention which should nominate a ticket.

Robert C. Breckenridge asked this question:

"Has the Committee on Organization the right to make nominations without consultation with the members of the organization and irrespective of the desires of the rank and file?"

No one was able to answer authoritatively, so John B. Pine, chairman of the Committee on District Organization, was sent for. He told Mr. Breckenridge that the committee had such authority.

"If that is so," commented Mr. Breckenridge, "this is evidently no place for me. I don't purpose to delegate my rights to any committee and I don't purpose to let any one take them from me."

"What a voter signs the declaration of principles," was Mr. Pine's rejoinder, "he agrees to delegate to the Committee on Organization the right to make nominations; in other words, to give to the committee the power of attorney."

Some one asked Mr. Breckenridge how he voted now.

"I vote through primaries and conventions," he retorted.

This ended the controversy, but it indicated, as members of the union acknowledged after the adjournment, that the union would make haste slowly in naming a ticket; that one probably would not be nominated until after the movement had taken the form of a Greater New York organization.

A delegation of dry goods men waited Wednesday afternoon on Colonel Augustus G. Payne, member of the Union League Club, official of the Mercantile Bank, director of the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company and a retired dry goods merchant, and asked him to become a candidate for Mayor. Colonel Payne has before been noticed in the press as a prospective candidate for office. He is a relative of Speaker T. B. Reed and a close friend of Mayor William L. Strong.

Robert Fulton Cutting, chairman of the Committee on Organization in the Citizens' Union, and John Sabatini Smith, a well-known Republican, crossed sabre and swords at the annual reunion of the Baptist Social Union last night, in the Savoy Hotel.

Chairman Cutting, in an impassioned speech, told why the organization had come into existence, and called upon all good citizens to give it their earnest support.

Mr. Smith, voicing the opinion of machine Republicans, denounced non-partisan politics as the "most arrogant and the most tyrannical form of government that could be instituted." His remarks created a decided sensation.

Besides an array of men prominent in Baptist affairs a large number of women were there. An elaborate dinner preceded the oratorical feast. President Canfield introduced Mr. Cutting, whose subject was "Democracy and the City."

"Aristocracy," began Mr. Cutting, "is making many concessions to democracy. We must not, however, close our eyes to the fact that democracy has many weaknesses. Our great centres of civilization, it cannot be denied, are veritable plague spots on the body politic. The question then occurs what is the matter with democracy? Are we lacking in intelligence or virtue? No that is not the cause. Machine government, or, more accurately, machine misrule, is responsible for this deplorable state of affairs. We here have been living under a political despotism, a despotism which stifled conscience and all individuality.

"The Citizens' Union is established to keep alive the fact that municipalities possess souls. This is not a new idea, but under our despotism it has been entirely ignored. We have banded ourselves together to keep awake the political soul of the first public officer to give recognition to this idea, and because Commissioner Waring has been loyal to this enabling principle he has created a body of men that are a credit to our city.

"Now, that we are on the eve of an important municipal contest it is incumbent upon all to assist us in our noble political crusade.

"It is the rankest heresy," he began, "to say that a municipal government is but a business corporation.

"For partisan politics we are asked to substitute non-partisan politics. We are asked in a suave manner by these eminent political forms of organization and allow them to make nominations and do all the work usually done by the two opposing parties.

GLEASON DRAWS HIS BATTLE AXE.

Says He's in the Race for the Mayoralty.

PROMISES A LOW TAX RATE.

"And if Any Other Candidate," Says He, "Can Beat Me in Debate, I Will Withdraw in His Favor."

MAYOR PATRICK J. GLEASON, of Long Island City, has begun the preliminary work of his campaign as independent candidate for Mayor of Greater New York. He intends to nominate himself by petition, and sent his attorney, Francis H. Van Vechten, to Albany yesterday to look up the laws last enacted in regard to independent nominations.

"As soon as Mr. Van Vechten returns," said the "Battle Axe" Mayor yesterday, "I shall begin the circulation of my petitions among the labor organizations and people."

"It is said," Mr. Mayor, that the Republicans are interested in the success of your movement?"

"Pshaw!" exclaimed the Mayor. "I am not mixed up in any Republican, Tammany, McLaughlin, Purroy or Citizens' Union combination. The Republicans have no show. Some Democrat is going to be the first Mayor of Greater New York, and I'm going to try to be that man."

"What do I think of the Citizens' Union movement? Nothing at all. The people are tired of business-reform movements. They've tried it twice. They drove Tammany Hall and the McLaughlin organization from power, and they are not going to put them back. Some Independent Democrat is going in."

Appeals to the People.

"I expect to get my strength from the common people. The labor organizations will indorse me, for the reason that I am the only Mayor who has always appointed labor men to office in all of the departments under me. I have Knights of Labor in the Fire, Education, Improvements, and Water departments, and a majority of the Long Island City police are organized labor men. My Commissioner of Public Works is a labor union man, and in other departments I have the presidents of the Bricklayers and the Stonecutters' unions. And I'll say this for my appointees: Mayor Strong has not got in all his government more competent to transact city business than my labor union men are. My police force and firemen are in better condition than his, and proportionately fewer men are brought up on charges in my department than in his."

"I expect under the Long Island City charter more power than Mayor Strong or any other Mayor in New York State. For all of my acts I have always held myself responsible to the people, and they have elected me Mayor of Long Island City five times.

"I am willing to compare records with any man the Republic or Democrats can put up. I started in with a pick and shovel, and worked my way up to the Mayor's office, and pay more taxes than any other man in Long Island City.

Promises a Low Tax Rate.

"If the people will elect me Mayor I will give a 1 per cent tax rate to them and keep any other necessary improvements. I'll meet any other candidate for Mayor on this proposition, and prove by figures that it can be done. When I was elected Mayor of Long Island City for the first time the tax rate was \$5.35. It is now \$5.82. Now, if I am elected Mayor of Greater New York I will appoint my own Board of Assessors and make them do as the law requires. This would be hard on the insurance companies and big corporations. Take the Equitable Company, for instance. It is assessed at \$4,000,000, while the real valuation is about \$10,000,000. I would change all that sort of thing. Why, there are 1,600 cases of gross under valuation in New York City alone. The corporations get the benefit of it, and the home owners are injured."

"By August 1 I shall have attached to my petitions the names of 100,000 men who will vote for me. I offer a challenge to any party or organization to put up one man who will meet me in any hall in Greater New York to debate this issue, and if he can beat me at argument I will withdraw in his favor. And I want every one to understand too, that there's no draw on my title to citizenship."

"Silver? Not a bit of it. The money question is a very large figure in the municipal fight. The only issues that will cut any figure are home rule and economy in expenditures."

HENRY A. MEYER FOR MAYOR.

Henry A. Meyer, of the Twenty-ninth, or Flatbush Ward, of Brooklyn, who on the Republican ticket lost to David